



STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(SPRINGFIELD) – Illinois State Board of Elections Executive Director Steve Sandvoss has informed the board that he intends to retire effective June 30.

“We thank Steve for his service to the agency over more than three decades,” said Chair Charles Scholz.

Sandvoss joined the State Board of Elections in 1988, served as its general counsel from 2004 to 2015 and was named executive director in 2015. He has been on administrative leave since April 5. Acting Executive Director Bernadette Matthews has led the Board of Elections in the interim and will continue as head of the agency until a permanent director is named.

Director Sandvoss’ administrative leave was related to a personal online extortion attempt against him that he reported to the Illinois State Police. In response to these events, the board immediately ordered an internal investigation by its chief information security officer. The investigation revealed that no SBE data or systems had been compromised in the incident.

The State Board of Elections is an independent state agency charged with the responsibility of having general supervision over the administration of election laws of the State of Illinois. Elections are administered locally by the State’s 108 election authorities.

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